44: Vanoverbergh E-5 (no date) 1941 OA1 Philippines
Apayao OA5
Isneg

One of the greatest enemies of the Isneg farmer is the locust (*dódon*), and consequently it will not seem strange that he is usually well acquainted with the names of several varieties of rice that can withstand these pests most effectually. We have, among others:

The *paturây*, without awns (*ibo*);

The *ortó-*, also awnless, and with rather small kernels: it is said by the Isneg to remain on the field even though all other varieties be consumed by locusts;

The *kuritây*, which has very tough leaves, no awns, and thin elongated kernels: it is comparatively rare and often used for purposes of divination. Knead a ball of cooked *kuritây*-rice and throw it a certain distance: if it falls down in a compact mass, you are sure to live long; should it break up or be smashed to pieces, the span of your life will be a short one.

In the same line may be mentioned the *binoóxān*, which is supposed to be immune from the depredations of wild animals.

Then we have the *madíliya* (evidently from the Spanish *medalla*, "medal", which may be the reason why it is used for an amulet, as will be seen under the description of the preparation of seeds for planting), a kind of *dékat* or oily rice. The sweets made from this variety remain soft for a considerable time, even to the third and fourth "night", as the Isneg puts it, who counts by nights, not by days.

The tallest and largest variety of rice is called *tăyútăy*: its husk is very light-colored.

The *xirxirá-* is the despair of the housewife, as it is exceedingly hard to pound: its husk is variegated and it has no awns.

It sometimes happens that the Isneg plants several varieties of rice or palay [18] in one and the same field; but, if he does so, he is always careful to keep each variety to its own patch of ground and not to plant them indiscriminately all over the field. In this case, each variety is known by the name of *xínan*. Thus, when the Isneg says that he has three *xínan* in his field, he means that his field is divided into three sections, each of them planted with a different variety of palay. It should be noted though that the name *xínan* is applied to the rice that grows there and not to the patch of soil in which it is planted.

[18] A name which is used extensively all over the Islands and means "rice in the husk or paddy".